BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2005-204-C - ORDER NO. 2005-681

DECEMBER 6, 2005

IN RE:	Request for Extended Calling Area from)	ORDER GRANTING
	Bluffton/Sun City Hilton Head Area to Hilton)	OFFICE OF
	Head Island.)	REGULATORY STAFF'S
)	REQUEST FOR
)	ADDITIONAL
)	EXTENSION

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the November 18, 2005, request of the Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) to extend the time to file its investigation results in the present docket for a period of thirty (30) days.

In the present docket, the Commission issued Order No. 2005-382 on July 19, 2005, requesting that the ORS investigate the costs of providing an Extended Calling Area from the Bluffton/Sun City Hilton Head area to Hilton Head Island with the affected utilities and any possible alternatives to extended area calling. Further, the Commission requested ORS to file its report and recommendation with the Commission within sixty (60) days of the issuance of Order No. 2005-382. ORS filed a request on September 1, 2005, seeking an extension of forty-five (45) days to complete its investigation, citing a delay in its receipt of the necessary information from the companies as reason for the need of additional time. The Commission issued Order No. 2005-487 on September 9,

2005, granting ORS an additional forty-five (45) days to complete its investigation and report its findings to the Commission. Lastly, the Commission issued Order No. 2005-650, dated November 9, 2005, whereby the ORS was granted an additional extension of fourteen (14) days to compile its report in this matter.

Presently, the ORS filed on November 21, 2005, another request for an additional thirty (30) days of time to file a report of its investigation regarding the proposed extended calling area relative to this docket. In its request, ORS asserts that the data provided to ORS and upon which ORS formulated its recommendations is incorrect and that ORS was not informed of the incorrect information until late afternoon on November 18, 2005. According to ORS, the companies in this proceeding, Hargray Telephone Company, Inc. (Hargray) and Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc. (Bluffton), will require at least two weeks to provide the correct information to ORS. ORS states that it will need time to evaluate the updated information, and therefore, requests a thirty (30) day extension for submitting its investigation results. ORS adds that counsel for Hargray and Bluffton joins in ORS's request for an extension.

We have examined ORS's request, and we find the request of the ORS reasonable and that the request should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Office of Regulatory Staff's request for a thirty (30) day extension of the time set forth in Order No. 2005-650 in which to file the ORS's investigation results in this docket is granted.

2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)